

Appl. No. 10/782,509
Response dated May 2, 2005
Reply to Election Requirement of March 30, 2005

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks. Claims 1-13 are pending in the application, with Claims 1 and 6 being in independent format.

In the Office Action mailed March 30, 2005, the Examiner states that the subject application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of claimed invention:

Group 1:

- Species 1: A runner carriage as shown in Figure 4.
- Species 2: A runner carriage as shown in Figure 4a.
- Species 3: A runner carriage as shown in Figure 4b.
- Species 4: A runner carriage as shown in Figure 5.

Group 2:

- Species A: A travel rail as shown in Figure 6A.
- Species B: A travel rail as shown in Figure 6B.
- Species C: A travel rail as shown in Figure 6C.
- Species D: A travel rail as shown in Figure 6D.
- Species E: A travel rail as shown in Figure 6E.

Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner did not list any of the pending Claims 1-13 that correspond to the species outlined above. Nevertheless, the Examiner states that an election of species is required under 35 U.S.C. §121. In response to the Election Requirement, Applicant hereby elects Species 1 (a runner carriage as shown in Figure 4), with *traverse*. Applicant further elects Species A (a travel rail as shown in Figure 6A), with *traverse*. The Election Requirement is respectfully traversed on the ground that the species are **not** patentably distinct.

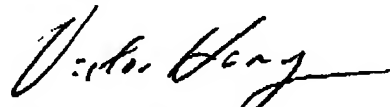
Applicant submits that the runner carriages shown in Figures 4, 4a, and 4b are all fully embraced by independent Claim 6, and that Figure 5 illustrates a *drive* carriage (as described on

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page 6, line 31 of the specification as filed). Applicant also submits that the different embodiments of travel rails shown in Figures 6A-E are not specifically claimed.

Favorable consideration and early allowance of the subject patent application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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